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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BANGLADESH

IPF:(1992-96) $163 172 000

(BGD/90/002) - Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Irrigated Agriculture

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	21 April 1993
Expected duration:	Five years
Proposed executing agency:	Government in association with FAO
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 4 092 400 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$ 4 092 400

Project background

During 1988/89, the Government of Bangladesh introduced a number of important policy and programme changes aimed at stimulating agricultural growth, in part based on the recommendations of the comprehensive Agriculture Sector Review (UNDP-funded). The result in production terms has been impressive and the Government is now within reach of its target of food grain self-sufficiency. In the wake of these positive achievements, the development issue is one of sustaining production increases over the longer-term with a view to ensuring food security without detriment to the environment.

The Government remains committed to pursuing a strategy of intensified agriculture, with priority on the increased production of cereal crops (particularly rice as the country's number one foodgrain). The introduction of a national IPM programme with the UNDP/FAO assistance is recognized as an important supporting component of this strategy. By directly empowering farmers with an effective means of plant protection which is environmentally sensitive and relatively inexpensive, the programme will help Bangladesh and its rice farming population avoid the problems of pesticide use evidenced in other countries - in particular increasing pest build-up and associated crop loss, the high cost of pesticide imports and aquatic pollution resulting from the use of toxic chemicals (reference the findings of the FAO trust-funded regional Intercountry Programme for the Development and Application of IPM in Rice in South and Southeast Asia, GCP/RAS/101/NET, GCP/RAS/092/AUL and GCP/RAS/108/AGF, based on its ongoing work in Bangladesh and eight other countries in Asia).

The present project is included in the Fifth Country Programme and is in line with the Government's strategies for plant protection as stated in its Fourth Five-Year Plan. It also forms a recognized part of the Government's commitment to implementing Agenda 21 as adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Chapter 14 of Agenda 21 calls upon signatory countries to "improve and implement programmes to put

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

integrated pest management practices within the reach of farmers"). The project further serves as a vital supporting element of the Government's priority Accelerated Cereals Production Programme, other components of which are receiving UNDP funding support.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) support the development of IPM policy and programme formulation in Bangladesh, along with the institutional capabilities to manage, coordinate and implement an IPM action plan; and (b) expand the use of IPM as a practical alternative plant protection measure to pesticide use through the training of field extension workers and farmers initially focusing on 120 select Thanas. By the end of the project, it is anticipated that a comprehensive national IPM programme will be operational in the country.

The project design relies heavily on the introduction and use of an innovative training process which is field-based and highly participatory in nature. The IPM approach itself involves simple farming management practices within the means of the poorest Bangladeshi rice farmer, and is environmentally-friendly and potentially cost-saving at the farm level (irrespective of the scale of operations). The project builds on work already initiated in Bangladesh under the FAO trust-funded Intercountry Programme by expanding the training programme to 120 select Thanas and laying the basis for full implementation of a national IPM programme. The means of extending this programme beyond the initial Thanas indicated above a is potentially available through the World Bank's Agricultural Support Services Project also being implemented by the Department of Agricultural Extension. Other donors (for example, DANIDA) have also expressed interest in providing support for a national IPM Programme.

The following TSS-2 services will be provided by FAO: (i) participation in key project review and evaluation exercises; (ii) technical backstopping and review of all project reports; (iii) technical clearance of national consultants and Terms of Reference for subcontracts; and (iv) evaluation of the contents of the in-country training programme and its impact. The AOS budget will cover the administrative costs of services to be provided by FAO in their role as an implementing agent.

Inputs

UNDP will provide international experts for a total of 92 work-months: an IPM adviser/CTA (36 work-months; an expert in non-formal education (36 work-months); agricultural extension (four work-months); in training impact evaluation (four work-months); and IPF field trainers (four persons for three work-months each); 72 work-months of national expertise (including an IPM ecologist, an IPM training expert in group dynamics and an IPM GIS expert), local subcontracts to the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute and the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute for specialized research; overseas study tours, a substantive in-country training programme (covering in-services training and farmer field schools); expendable and non-expendable equipment; administrative support; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 177 400
Subcontract	60 000
Training	2 477 000
Equipment	285 000
Miscellaneous	93 000
Total	4 092 400

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